

United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Naval Academy:

The Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), from the Committee on Appropriations, and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), At Large.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 9355(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Air Force Academy:

The Senator from Idaho (Mr. KEMPTHORNE), from the Committee on Armed Services, and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), from the Committee on Appropriations.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 9355(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Air Force Academy:

The Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), from the Committee on Appropriations, and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), At Large.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HULSHOF). The Chair will recognize 5 one-minutes on each side.

A RIGHT TO KNOW

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, it was Theodore Roosevelt who said in his third State of the Union address:

No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission when we require him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right, not asked as a favor.

President Clinton should have kept that quote in mind before he invoked executive privilege. When Janet Reno appointed Ken Starr to investigate the various scandals that have beset the administration, he promised to follow the rule of law. He has done so despite the best efforts of the President's attack dogs to discredit him.

The American people have a right to know the truth about the actions of the President and all the President's men. They have a right to know that the rule of law is still being followed in the White House.

No man is above the law, no matter how often the President invokes executive privilege.

CONCERNING REMARKS OF SPEAKER GINGRICH IN MONDAY SPEECH

(Mr. GEPHARDT asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, ideally we are able to put aside our partisan interests and consider the people's business, if not with a blank slate, at least with an open mind. The Speaker of the House has an even greater duty. He not only represents his district and his party but he represents the integrity of the House of Representatives for all Members.

This Monday the Speaker delivered a speech in which he accused unnamed presidential advisers of being unpatriotic, accused Members of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight for voting for a cover-up, urged the President and unnamed members of our party to quit undermining the law in the United States, and declared that in the last 2½ years we have lived through the most systematic, deliberate obstruction of justice, cover-up and effort to avoid the truth we have ever seen in American history. These remarks, which demean the office which he is privileged to hold, were repeated in the well of the House.

The Speaker noted in the same speech that America is a Nation under the rule of law and that no person is above the law. I fully agree with his comments. But speeches are empty sentiments unless they are practiced through our public behavior. There is more to the rule of law than after-dinner rhetoric. The rule of law requires impartial and competent investigations. It assumes the Speaker will not prejudice the results of these investigations. It requires, if not charity towards all, at least an absence of malice.

The Speaker's remarks have shown that he falls far short of this standard. I have sent him a letter and asked him here today to recuse himself from all further actions connected with this investigation. We must restore a sense of fairness to this process and integrity to this House.

RECOGNIZING FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COL- LINSVILLE, ILLINOIS, ON ITS 175TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an event that will occur in my hometown of Collinsville, Illinois. On May 3 of this year, the First United Presbyterian Church of Collinsville will celebrate its 175th birthday. It is the oldest church in continuous existence in Madison County. Informal worship services began in 1818, the year Illinois became the 21st State.

To honor this celebration, the church is having at least one special program a month from February through July. Each month a different group within the church will lead services. The first

program in February was a reenactment of a Society Meeting in the style which was held in the 1800s. Many members of the congregation dressed for the occasion in period pieces, including the pastor and members of the choir.

Besides a special service on May 3, the actual date of the organization of the congregation, there will be programs to honor the church-related Glenwood Cemetery, established in 1822, on May 16 and 17. These celebrations are geared so that members of the congregation will have the opportunity to share with the community and rejoice in the blessings that God has given them.

SHAME IN THE MAKING

(Mr. STUPAK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, and now I mean Speaker GINGRICH, you have begun personal attacks on the President. Mr. Speaker, you have told your Republican cash cow GOPAC that the President is obstructing justice. By stating your attacks on the President in a partisan manner, before a partisan group, you have shown that you cannot lead the House in a fair and impartial manner in any review of any inquiry. In fact, it appears that you have already reviewed the alleged facts and you have prejudged and you have made yourself judge and jury.

Mr. Speaker, let us stick to the facts, not by GOPAC but just the facts. But instead, Mr. Speaker, even a Roll Call editorial calls your actions "Shame In The Making." Let us not bring shame to this House. You have a responsibility to lead, not mislead. You should be a statesman without prejudging any inquiry.

Instead you have become a lightning rod of partisanship. Just over a year ago, we had to reprimand you and fine you over \$300,000 for bringing shame and disrespect to this House. Do we have to go down that shameful road again? Do not bring shame and disrespect to this House, Mr. Speaker, by your personal attacks.

AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW WHY FOREIGN FUND- RAISING INVESTIGATION IS BEING BLOCKED

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, with regard to the House investigation on the use of illegal foreign money in the last election by the DNC, over 90 people involved with the fund-raising have either taken the fifth amendment or fled the country to avoid testifying. This fact alone points to extensive illegal activity.

The only way the American people are going to get to the truth is if we

grant immunity to some of these witnesses who know firsthand what happened. Why do some Members want to block a full investigation? The Justice Department agreed to immunity for every witness on whom we voted. The Justice Department had no objection.

The only reason to vote against immunity is to keep those witnesses from telling the American people what happened. Why would some Members want to be involved in covering up that? The Members should stop voting to block immunity and stop putting up roadblocks so we can get to the truth. The American people deserve the truth. The American people have the right to know what happened and who was responsible.

DOES OUR CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY MAKE ANY SENSE?

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to China, the wheel is turning but the hamster is dead. Check this out. China rips us off for \$60 billion a year. Then they steal our nuclear and missile technology. Then they sell that technology and those missiles to our enemies. Then the White House, they panic, and they spend billions of dollars to protect America from Chinese missiles pointed at us by our enemies, missiles that were financed by American dollars.

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Unbelievable.

Some of these foreign policy gurus must have fallen into the gene pool when the lifeguard was not looking, my colleagues.

If this is a policy, I am a fashion leader.

I want to say one last thing: I want to yield back any national security we have left, and if this policy with China makes any sense, then we all need a lobotomy.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HULSHOF). The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

DEMOCRATS STONEWALLING THEIR OWN JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight would like to grant immunity to Nancy Lee, Larry Wong, Irene

Wu and Kent La and get their testimony so that Congress can learn the facts about illegal campaign contributions in the 1996 presidential election. The Justice Department does not oppose the granting of immunity to these four key witnesses, but the Democrats on the committee refuse, refuse to grant immunity to these four witnesses.

How can this be defended? It cannot. This is the same people who cry partisanship whenever any investigation into the allegations of wrongdoing are investigated and the same people who are not only defending the White House stonewalling but now stonewalling their own Justice Department.

I must grant the Democrats this, they really do know how to play hardball, but this is the same people who have tried to destroy the reputations of Judge Robert Bork and Judge Clarence Thomas and now Judge Ken Starr are now the same people who stand silent and motionless in the face of massive evidence of White House stonewalling and round-the-clock spin.

Stop the stalling and stop the spin so the American people can get to the truth.

LISTEN TO THE VOTERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to be here with my daughter for a day, Demika, who is a student at Brown Middle School; and I am here this morning because I wanted us to have a reasonable debate, Mr. Speaker, on this very important question of vouchers in schools.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is extremely important that we are reasonable because, if we are not reasonable, then we do not help those young people who, in fact, need to be educated. When one of our colleagues across the aisle compares public school education to communism, then we are unreasonable.

When the schools in D.C., private schools, cost on an average \$12,000, a \$2,000 voucher is not going to happen and not going to help children. In fact, it is \$3,200. Only 2,000 children are going to be able to be helped. This drains money from our public school system.

Mr. Speaker, the District of Columbia has already voted against vouchers; and if I was to ask those in the District of Columbia, I would imagine, Mr. Speaker, they would ask us to help them educate their children, help them support public schools. I would ask that we listen to the voters of the District of Columbia and not vote for D.C. vouchers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members of the House are reminded it is a

violation of House rules to call attention in debate to any guests of the House in the Chamber.

WHY ARE THE DEMOCRATS STONEWALLING THEIR OWN JUSTICE DEPARTMENT?

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, Democrats are saying the American people are tired of talking about White House scandals. Well, congressional investigators are even more tired of the stonewalling, lack of cooperation and extraordinary memory loss that seems to afflict Harvard and Yale Law School graduates whenever they are called to testify. I believe the American people are stunned by the evasions, the retractions, the utter devotion to spin over truth coming out of this White House.

Mr. Speaker, it is Democrats on the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight who are doing the stonewalling. Letters from the Justice Department say, and it has been said already, that Justice does not oppose granting immunity to four key witnesses in the campaign finance investigations, and I will just repeat that. The Justice Department does not oppose immunity, and yet the Democrats on the committee refuse to grant immunity.

I ask the American people to be the judge. Why would the Democrats be stonewalling their own Justice Department?

SHAMEFUL CIRCUMSTANCE WHICH NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED

(Mr. HINCHEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, in the last several days, the Speaker of this House has launched an intemperate prejudicial attack on the President of the United States, demeaning himself and the office he holds by prejudging issues that may, in fact, come before this House. One can only conclude by these intemperate actions that the Speaker's basic intention is to draw attention away from the failure, his failure and the failure of the Republican leadership to address important issues that are of deep concern to the American people.

Yesterday, we learned that the Speaker personally made it impossible to reach a bipartisan agreement on a broad-based tobacco bill. He, in effect, told the chairman of the Committee on Commerce that he could no longer cooperate with Democrats to put together a bill that would make it difficult for children to become addicted to tobacco, demonstrating once again how deeply into the pockets of tobacco this Speaker actually is.